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Table of Contents and Prologue

John Freshnock

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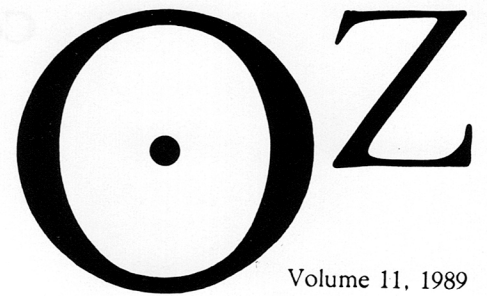


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Contents

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| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 4 | Modern Pastoralism and the Middle Landscape | Peter G. Rowe |
| 10 | Planning and Elaboration | Royce M. Earnest |
| 12 | The Impact of the Car on American Urban Form | Richard Pohlman |
| 18 | In Search of the City | Helen Maib |
| 22 | The Sacred Garden Verses the City of Man | Stanley Tigerman |
| 24 | Form and Content | David Walters |
| 28 | The Representation of Making in Urban Form | Murali Ramaswami Llewellyn Seibold |
| 30 | Doré After London | Wayne Michael Charney |
| 36 | Vacant Lots Proposal | Tod Williams Billie Tsien |
| 38 | Four Museums + a Monument | Kansas City Academic Program |
| 40 | Madison Square Garden Site Redevelopment | Thomas Phifer |
| 42 | Emerald City | Daniel Soloman Susan Haviland |
| 46 | The Seaside Story | Robert Davis |
| 48 | Design for Sustainability at Seaside | Gary Coates |
| 52 | The Window and the Door | Fourth year Architecture Studio |
| 54 | Building as an Urban Machine | Vladimir Krstic |
| 56 | Adaptive Reuse | Fifth Year Interior Architecture Studio |

Prologue

“The city first took form as the home of a god: a place where eternal values were represented. Though the symbols have changed the realities behind them remain ... Without the religious perspectives generated by the city, it is doubtful if more than a small part of man’s capacities for living and learning could have developed.”

Lewis Mumford
The City in History, 1961

The Myths of Metropolis

The drama of history formed and forming — of lives past, promised and denied — is revealed in cities, vital embodiments of human purpose in our civilizations. What can we understand about the city’s complex origins and functions? Has the city been rendered obsolete by the technology it spawned? What are our symbols of urbanism? What myths inform us as we inhabit, participate in and design town, city, metropolis and megalopolis?

J.E.F.